Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03460 161507Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PA-02 INR-07 /045 W

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 $P\ R\ 151710Z\ JUL\ 76$

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4462

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 3460

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

FOR: IOP, IPS, IBS, ILA

DEPARTMENT PASS TO IO

MEDIA REACTION FOR JULY 15, 1976-

MORNING DAILIES, EXCEPTING EXCELSIOR, CONTINUED FRONTPAGE TREATMENT AND PROMINENT LENGTHY INSIDE COVERAGE OF UNESCO AND IAPA MEETINGS. EXCELSIOR CONFINED COVERAGE TO INSIDE, RAN EXCERPTS FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW'S INAUGURAL SPEECH IN EDITORIAL COLUMN.

LA NACION PUBLISHED CONCILIATORY EDITORIAL ON DUALF MEETINGS SAYING "

...IT WOULD BE SHAME IF -- BECAUSE

OF CLINGING STUBBORNLY TO ANTAGONISTIC POSITIONS -- THE

TWO IMPORTANT AND SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS HERE

SHOULD PASS INTO HISTORY AS AN UNPRODUCTIVE SQUABBLE."

"WE ARE AS FAR FROM MAINTAINING THAT THE COMMUNICATION

MEDIA SHOULD BE ALLOWED LICENTIOUSNESS AS FROM

ACCEPTING THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DECLARE AN

OBJECTIVE TRUTH, OR THAT THE PRESS BE SUBMITTED A

PRIORI TO POLITICAL PROGRAMS, IN REGARD TO WHICH ITS

MISSION IS PRECISELY TO SERVE AS A FORUM OF DEBATE."

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03460 161507Z

INDEPENDENT LA REPUBLICA SPENT ITS EDITORIAL COLUMN

ANALYZING THE IDEA OF REGIONAL PRESS SERVICES. EXCERPTS FOLLOW.

"... IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES TO INFORM ABOUT EVERYTHING, AND IT IS ALSO IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO BE FREE FROM ERRORS."

SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF NEW INDEPENDENT NEWS AGENCIES FOR LATIN AMERICA, THE NEWSPAPER URGED THAT ANY AGENCY CREATED BE NONGOVERNMENT. "ERROR IS VISIBLE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FREEDOM, WHEN IT CAN BE CONFRONTED WITH REALITY OR TRUTH; HOWEVER, WHEN NEWS SERVES ONLY ONE MASTER, WHEN CONTRADICTORY FACTS OR BAD NEWS ARE HIDDEN IN PRINCIPLE, HOW CAN THE LIE BE DISCOVERED IN A PAINTED PICTURE GIVEN TO THE READER IN ORDER TO MAKE PROPAGANDA FOR THE REGIME? THERE ARE NO PARTCKL ERRORS IN THAT CASE. EVERYTHING IS UNTRUE."

"THERE IS NO DOUBT,

THAT IT IS PREFERABLE TO
BE INFORMED BY NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WHICH MIGHT
SOMETIMES MAKE MISTAKES OR BE IMPRECISE THAN TO
DTDEPEND ON OFFICIALS WHO BELIEVE THEMSELVES INFALLIBLE.
SINCE THIS IS A WORLD OF IMPERFECT HUMAN BEINGS,
WE TRUST THE FORMER SITUATION MORE. THE LATTER IS
FOR ANGELS... OR FOOLS."

ENTIRE TEXT OF REPUBLICA EDITORIAL FOLLOWS. STOLZENBACH

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Message Attributes

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